1 2 3 4 5	CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURA LEGAL DIVISION Michael Tancredi, SBN 101425 300 South Spring Street South Tower, Suite 12700 Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: 213-346-6635 Fax: 213-897-826 Attorneys for			
6	CALIFÓRNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE			
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8	DEFODE THE INCL	DANCE COMMISSIONED		
9	BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER			
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA			
11	In the Matter of the Licenses and Licensing	File No.: UPA 2101-00001		
12	Rights of:	OAH No. Pending		
13	New Hampshire Insurance Company	ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE		
14	and	(Ins. Code Sections 790.03 and 790.05);		
15 16	York Risk Services Group, Inc.,	STATEMENT OF CHARGES/ACCUSATION (Ins. Code Sections 790.03 and 790.05); 704(b) 704.7;		
17 18 19	Respondents.	NOTICE OF MONETARY PENALTY (Ins. Code Sections 790.03, 790.05 and 790.035).		
20		Date: On a date to be set.		
21		Time: 9:00 a.m.		
22		Place: Office of Administrative Hearings, Los Angeles, CA		
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25	ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE			
26	1. WHEREAS, the California Department of Insurance (hereafter, "the			
27	Department") has reason to believe that New Hampshire Insurance Company <sup>1</sup>			
28	A member company of American International Group, Inc.			
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and its claims handling agent, York Services have engaged in or is engaging in this State in the unfair methods of competition or unfair or deceptive acts or practices, and other unlawful acts, as set forth in the STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC CHARGES/ACCUATION contained herein; and

- 2. WHEREAS, the Department has reason to believe that a proceeding with respect to the alleged acts of Respondent would be in the public interest;
- 3. NOW, THEREFORE, and pursuant to the provisions of § 790.05 of the California Insurance Code (CIC), Respondent is ordered to appear at the time, date and location to be determined by the Office of Administrative Hearings, and show cause, if any cause there be, why the Commissioner should not issue an Order requiring Respondent to Cease and Desist from engaging in the methods, acts, and practices set forth in the STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC CHARGES/ACCUSATION contained in Paragraph E herein, and imposing the penalties set forth in § 790.035, 704(b) 704.7; of the CIC and as requested in the PRAYER AND NOTICE OF MONETARY PENALTY.

#### **GENERAL STATEMENT**

- 4. Pursuant to Government Code section 11503, the Department files this matter in its official capacity.
- 5. Respondent New Hampshire Insurance Company (hereinafter "New Hampshire") is a Property and Casualty insurer holding a certificate of authority issued by the Department; Company Identification Number 0135-4.
- 6. Respondent York Risk Services Group, Inc. Group (hereinafter "York") holds an agency license issued by the Department; License Number 2E11380.
- 7. The Sayre Fire started in Sylmar, CA on November 14. 2008 and led to the loss of 489 residences. It burned over 11,000 acres and destroyed more than 600 structures, including 480 mobile homes. Both the mayor of Los Angeles and the governor of the California issued state of emergency declarations. The 480 mobile homes destroyed in the fire were located in the Oakridge Mobile Home Park, which, before the fire, housed 600 mobile homes. Respondent New

Hampshire issued Mobile Homeowners Policies to approximately 370 policyholders whose homes suffered total losses as a result of the firestorm. New Hampshire authorized Respondent York to handle the claims arising out of these losses on its behalf.

#### STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC CHARGES/ACCUSATION

# a. Department File No. CSB-6406962, Susan W<sup>2</sup>

- 8. On June 4, 2009, Susan W filed a complaint at against both Respondents with the Department alleging undue delay in the processing of a claim. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire and York to each be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations ("CCR"), Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.7(c) (1), 2695.7(h), 2695.4(a), and 2695.7(d)
- 9. CCR Section 2695.7(h) requires an insurer upon acceptance of the claim in whole or in part and, when necessary, upon receipt of a properly executed release, shall immediately, but in no event more than thirty (30) calendar days later, tender payment or otherwise take action to perform its claim obligation. York received the complainant's personal property inventory list On April 24, 2009. A status letter was sent to the complainant dated April 27, 2009 indicating that the claim was accepted and payment for the remainder of the personal property limits would be issued. The payment request was not processed until June 16, 2009, and only after the complainant contacted the insurer to complain about the delay. Since payment was not issued within 30 days, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 10. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The Department's review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The full last names of the policyholders are not listed to protect the privacy of the individuals. The Respondents know the full last names and can cross reference them to the Department file number, which is stated.

11. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire and York on November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 5, 2009. Therefore, both companies were found in violation of this section.

- 12. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported to on November 18, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until May 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 13. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in letters dated January 13, 2010 and March 18, 2010. York was notified of the violations in a letter dated May 20, 2010.
- 14. On April 9, 2010, New Hampshire wrote to the Department to dispute the findings that it was in violation of CIC Section 2060 and CCR Sections 2695.4(a) and 2695.7(d). The Department advised New Hampshire by letter dated May 18, 2010 that the violations would stand.

## b. Department File No. CSB-6406322, Leonard and Jacqueline B

- 15. On January 15, 2009 a complaint was filed with the Department against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.4(a).
- 16. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.

- 17. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 6, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 18. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated January 6, 2010. York was notified of the violations in a letter dated May 20, 2010.

## c. Department File No. CSB-6434844, Joanne Nadeau

- 19. On April 8, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging the undue delay in the processing of a claim. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.5(a), 2695.7(d), 2695.7(g), and 2695.7(h). York was found to be in violation of CIC Section 2060 and CCR Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.7(d), 2695.7(g), and 2695.7(g), and 2695.7(h).
- 20. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 21. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported on November 18, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 2, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 22. Section 2695.5(a) of the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations requires a complete response to a Department of Insurance inquiry within 21 calendar days. A response is considered to be complete if it addresses all issues raised by the Department of Insurance in its

inquiry and includes copies of any documentation and claim files requested. In the Department's April 8, 2009 letter to New Hampshire, the Department asked for a copy of the complete claim file. The documents that were sent did not include the log notes. Therefore, New Hampshire was found in violation of this section.

- 23. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on November 18, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 24. Section 2695.7(g) states that no insurer shall attempt to settle a claim by making a settlement offer that is unreasonably low. On September 1, 2009, the insured provided York with escrow documents and contractors estimates totaling \$289,083.53 so she could collect the difference between the prior dwelling payment of \$144,000 and the agreed upon replacement cost of \$286,970. New Hampshire rejected an entire contractor's bid for \$35,950 because the improvements were for the exterior of the home and the coverage B limits had already been exhausted. However, after intervention by this Department, \$19,214.75 was approved because it was later agreed that many of the items on the bid were indeed covered under coverage A. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 25. Section 2695.7(h) requires an insurer to tender payment of claims no later than 30 calendar days from acceptance of claim. In this claim, the Other Structures estimate was received and accepted on March 17, 2009, but payment was not issued until April 23, 2009. 4/23/09. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 26. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letters dated January 6, 2010. York was notified of the violations in a letter dated May 21, 2010.

# d. Department File No. CSB-6441439, John and Michelle T

- 27. On May 6, 2009, a complaint was filed against New and York alleging an undue delay in processing the above-captioned claim.
- 28. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section

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e. Department File No. CSB-6458253, Alicia V

33. On July 7, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an undue delay in processing the claim as well as unfair settlement offers being made.

An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire

2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.5(a) and 2695.7(g). York was found to be in violation of CIC Section 2060 and CCR Section 2695.7(g).

- 29. In reference to Section 2695.5(a), this Department sent a letter to New Hampshire on May 6, 2009, and a response was considered late on May 27, 2009. An incomplete response was received on May 22, 2009; this response was considered incomplete because it failed to include a copy of the claim file as requested in our initial letter to New Hampshire. A second request was then sent via e-mail on August 6, 2009, and the follow-up response was due on or before August 27, 2009. The claim file was finally received via e-mail on September 9, 2009, and therefore two violations of this regulation were attributed to New Hampshire.
- 30. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 31. Section 2695.7(g) states that no insurer shall attempt to settle a claim by making a settlement offer that is unreasonably low. This policy had a \$9400 policy limit for Other Structures. When settling this portion of the claim, York applied a \$500 deductible to the policy limit despite the total value of the claim being in excess of \$11,000. The incorrect application of the deductible resulted in a payment of \$8900 when the payment should have been \$9400. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in letters dated October 7, 2009 and March 24, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 21, 2010.

Company and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.5(e) (2) and 2695.4(a).

- 34. Section 2695.5(e) (2) requires an insurer to provide necessary claim forms no later than 15 calendar days from receiving notice of claim. Notice of claim was received on November 17, 2008. York was required to take action under this regulation no later than December 2, 2008; however, the required action was not sent until December 10, 2008. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 35. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 36. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire and York on November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 5, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 37. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in letters dated September 23, 2009 and March 25, 2010. York was advised of its violations in a letter dated May 21, 2010.

# f. Department File No. CSB-6462336, Peggy F

38. On July 23, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an undue delay in processing with no reasonable settlement offers made. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Sections 790.03(h) (1) and 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.5(a), 2695.5(e) (2), 2695.4(a), and 2695.7(d). York Claims was found

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27 28 to be in violation of California Insurance Code Sections 2060 and 790.03(h) (1) and CCR Sections 2695.4(a) and 2695.7(d).

- 39. In reference to Section 2695.5(a), this Department sent a letter to New Hampshire on July 23, 2009, and a response was received on August 13, 2009. Some additional correspondence then went back and forth via e-mail while efforts were being made to resolve the outstanding claim issues. On August 31, 2009, an e-mail was sent asking for a copy of the explanation and/or breakdown that was paid on the supplement. No response was ever received by the due date of September 21, 2009, so a follow-up letter was then sent on September 23, 2009. The anticipated response was then provided on September 25, 2009; however, a violation of this regulation did occur.
- 40 Section 2695.5(e) (2) requires an insurer to provide necessary claim forms no later than 15 calendar days from receiving notice of claim. Notice of claim was received by New Hampshire on November 18, 2008, and New Hampshire was required to take action under this regulation no later than December 2, 2008. The required action was not done until December 8, 2008, thereby causing a violation of the regulation.
- 41. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. Our review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 42 California Insurance Code Section 790.03(h) (1) prohibits an insurer from misrepresenting insurance policy provisions to claimants. On June 28, 2009, a letter was sent by York to the insured advising that her policy had an endorsement that provided an additional 110% in Dwelling coverage. However, the insured actually had an endorsement that provided an additional 125%. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 43. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to

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New Hampshire on. November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 4, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.

- 44. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on November 17, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until May 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 45. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in letters dated October 26, 2009 and March 24, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 21, 2010.

#### g. CSB-6462726, Douglas and Jodene F

- On July 23, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging a delay in the handling of a claim. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.7(d) and 2695.7(c) (1).
- 47. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 48. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows that the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until January 15, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 49. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on November 17, 2008, no attempt

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was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.

- 50. Section 2695.7(c) (1) requires that if more time is required than is allotted in subsection 2695.7(b) to determine whether a claim should be accepted and/or denied, every insurer shall provide the claimant, within the time frame specified in subsection 2695.7(b), with written notice of the need for additional time. In this case, proof of claim was received on November 25, 2008 in the form of an estimated replacement cost. The first written notice of the need for additional time was sent timely on December 16, 2008. However, continuing notices needed to be sent every 30 days until the claim was accepted or denied. The next notice was timely on January 15, 2009. However the next status letter was due on February 16, 2009 and was not sent until March 3, 2009. The next notices were sent timely on March 10, 2009, April 4, 2009 and April 22, 2009. The following notice was due on May 22, 2009 and was not sent until June 16, 2009. The next notice was due on July 16, 2009 but was not sent until July 30, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found to have committed three violations of this section.
- 51. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated June 6, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 21, 2010.

#### h. Department File No. CSB-6463641, Jerry and Diane M

- 52. On July 27, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unsatisfactory settlement offer was made and undue delay in claim processing. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire Company and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.4(a).
- 53. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires an insurer to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as additional living expenses which the insured has made a claim for. The list may include a statement that the list is not intended to include all items covered under the policy, but only those that are commonly

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claimed, if this is the case. This list was never provided to the insured. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.

- 54. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer must disclose to a first party claimant or beneficiary, all benefits, coverage, time limits or other provisions of any insurance policy issued by that insurer that may apply to the claim presented by the claimant. When additional benefits might reasonably be payable under an insured's policy upon receipt of additional proofs of claim, the insurer shall immediately communicate this fact to the insured and cooperate with and assist the insured in determining the extent of the insurer's additional liability. The \$500 Debris Removal policy benefit was never disclosed to the complainant and was never paid. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 55 The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated January 6, 2010. York was advised of these violations in a letter dated May 25, 2010.

#### i. Department File No. CSB-6464029, Bethany F

- 56. On July 30, 2009, this complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an undue delay in the processing of a claim. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.5(a) and 2695.5(e). York was found to be in violation of California Insurance Code Section 2060.
- 57. In reference to Section 2695.5(a), this Department sent a letter to New Hampshire on July 30, 2009, and a response was considered late on August 20, 2009. The response was not received by the Department until August 28, 2009, representing a violation of this regulation.
- 58. Section 2695.5(e) (2) requires an insurer to provide necessary claim forms no later than 15 calendar days from notice of claim. Notice of claim was received by New Hampshire on November 17, 2008, and New Hampshire was required to take action under this regulation no later than December 2, 2008. The required action did not occur until December 9, 2008, and this represents a violation of this regulation.
  - 59. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim

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for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.

60. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in letters dated December 31, 2009 and March 25 2010. York was notified of its violation in a letter dated May 25, 2010.

## j. CSB-6464243, Wesley and Terri M

- 61. On July 29, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unsatisfactory settlement offer was made and undue delay in claim processing. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.5(a) and 2695.7(d). York was found to be in violation of CIC 2060 and CCR 2695.7(d).
- on July 31, 2009 and a response was considered late on August 26, 2009.

  The response was not received in our office until September 9, 2009. Therefore, New Hampshire was in violation of this regulation.

In reference to Section 2695.5(a), this Department sent a letter to New Hampshire

- 63. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insured is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. Our review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 64. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 17, 2008, no effort was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until April 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.

65. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in letters dated March 19, 2010 and March 22, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 25, 2010. On April 16, 2010, New Hampshire wrote to the Department to dispute the findings that it was in violation of CIC Section 2060 and CCR Section 2695.7(d). A letter advising New Hampshire that the violations would stand was sent on May 19, 2010.

#### k. Department File No. CSB-6482648, Mindy L and Darlene W

- 66. On September 15, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging undue delay in claim processing as well as an unsatisfactory settlement offer was made. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire Company to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Sections 790.03(h)(1) and 2060, and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.3(a), 2695.7(b), 2695.7(h) and 2695.7(d). York Services was found to be in violation of CIC Sections 790.03(h) (1) and 2060, and CCR Sections 2695.7(b), 2695.7(h) and 2695.7(d).
- 67. California Insurance Code Section 790.03(h) (1) prohibits an insurer from misrepresenting facts or policy provisions. In York's letter to the complainants dated August 31, 2009, it advised that endorsement 87128 referred to Guaranteed Replacement Cost which is no longer available and was not on their renewal policy effective October 4, 2008. Endorsement 87128 is actually Specified Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A 110%. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 68. Section 2695.3(a) requires an insurer's file must contain all documents. A copy of York's status letter to the complainants as well as the questionnaire for replacement cost quote as referenced in New Hampshire's claims activity log notes dated July 25, 2009 was not included in the claim file that was requested. Therefore, New Hampshire was found to be in violation of this section.
- 69. Section 2695.7(b) requires an insurer upon receiving proof of claim, except as specified in subsection 2695.7(b) (4), shall immediately, but in no event more than forty (40) calendar days later, accept or deny the claim, in whole or in part. Here, York received

- 70. Section 2695.7(h) requires an insurer upon acceptance of the claim in whole or in part and, when necessary, upon receipt of a property executed release, shall immediately, but in no event more than thirty (30) calendar days later, tender payment or otherwise take action to perform its claim obligation. Here, the complainants submitted their partial personal property inventory list as well as their Business Personal Property list to New Hampshire Company on December 23, 2008. A check in the amount of \$24,500.00 which represented 50% of the complainants personal property policy limit was issued to them on December 24, 2008. However, the check for the \$5,000.00 Business Personal Property was never issued until February 8, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 71. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. Our review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 72. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported to New Hampshire Company on November 18, 2008, New Hampshire made no attempt to determine the replacement cost value of the home until April of 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 73. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in letters dated January 20, 2010 and March 22, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 25, 2010. On April 9, 2010, New Hampshire wrote to the Department to dispute the findings that it was in violation of CIC Section 2060 and CCR Section 2695.7(d). A letter advising New

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Hampshire that the violations would stand was sent on May 18, 2010.

# I. Department File No. CSB-6486062, Janet N

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- 74. On September 29, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.7(d), and 2695.7(c) (1).
- 75. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 76. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until February 25, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 77. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported to New Hampshire Company on November 18, 2009, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 78. After proof of claim is received, Section 2695.7(c) (1) requires an insurer to provide notice every 30 days to a claimant whenever the insurer is unable to accept or deny the claim within the timeframe required in Section 2695.7(b). In this case, timely notice was provided to the claimant on December 17, 2008, January 16, 2009, February 12, 2009, March 2,

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2009, March 30, 2009, and April 17, 2009. However, the notice that was due on May 18, 2009 was not sent until May 22, 2009, constituting one violation of this section. Notice was again sent timely on June 18, 2009, but the notices that were due on July 20, 2009, August 19, 2009, and September 18, 2009 were not sent, resulting in an additional three violations of this section.

79. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated January 6, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 25, 2010.

## m. Department File No. CSB-6489309, Naida and Jorge B

- 80. On October 6, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging a claim handling delay. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.4(a).
- 81. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires an insurer to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as additional living expenses which the insured has made a claim for. The list may include a statement that the list is not intended to include all items covered the policy, but only those that are commonly claimed, if this is the case. This list was never provided to the insured. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 82. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer must disclose to a first party claimant or beneficiary, all benefits, coverage, time limits or other provisions of any insurance policy issued by that insurer that may apply to the claim presented by the claimant. When additional benefits might reasonably be payable under an insured's policy upon receipt of additional proofs of claim, the insurer shall immediately communicate this fact to the insured and cooperate with and assist the insured in determining the extent of the insurer's additional liability. The \$500 Debris Removal policy benefit was never disclosed to the complainant and was never paid. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 83. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated March 24, 2010. York was advised of its violations in a letter dated May 25, 2010.

#### m. Department File No. CSB-6502348, Judith L

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- 84. On December 15, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire and York to each be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.7(d), 2695.7(g), and 2695.7(c) (1).
- 85. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. Our review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 86. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported on November 18, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 6, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 87. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 18, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 88. Section 2695.7(g) states that no insurer shall attempt to settle a claim by making a settlement offer that is unreasonably low. On February 17, 2009, the adjuster notified the insured that the file was being closed. At this time only \$74,000 of the Coverage A policy limits had been paid. Although New Hampshire had not yet come to an agreement with the California Department of Insurance that ultimately led to the insured being provided an additional 110% for the replacement of the Dwelling, York's settlement offer to the insured did not include the undisputed 10% increase given by the Additional Amount of Insurance endorsement.

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- 89. Section 2695.7(c) (1) requires an insurer to provide notice to a claimant whenever the insurer is unable to accept or deny the claim within the timeframe required in Section 2695.7(b). In this case, proof of claim was received by York on November 24, 2008 and the claim for the dwelling wasn't accepted in full and paid until August 10, 2009. Notice pursuant to this Section was sent timely on December 17, 2008, January 15, 2009, and February 16, 2009. However, continuing notices that were due on March18, 2009, April 17, 2009, May 18, 2009, June 17, 2009, and July 17, 2009. Therefore, New Hampshire and York claim were found to have committed five violations of this regulation.
- 90. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated March 18, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 25, 2010.
- 91. On April 16, 2010, New Hampshire wrote to the Department to dispute the that it was in violation of CIC Section 2060 and CCR Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.7(g), 2695.7(c) (1) and 2695.7(d). A letter advising New Hampshire that the violations would stand was sent on May 19, 2010.

# n. Department File No. CSB-6405361, Rich and Karen A

- 92. On January 13, 20/09, a complaint was filed New Hampshire and York alleging the undue delay in the handling of this claim. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found both companies to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a) and 2695.7(d). California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. Our review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 93. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to

New Hampshire on November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until February 25, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.

- 94. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on November 17, 2009, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 95. On November 13, 2009 the Department notified New Hampshire that it was in violation of that these violations had occurred. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 25, 2010.

#### o. Department File No. CSB-6397011, Manuela C

- 96. On December 2, 2008, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging undue delay in the paying of Additional Living Expenses. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.5(a) and 2695.7(d). York was found to be in violation of CIC Section 2060 and CCR Sections 2695.4(a) and 2695.7(d).
- 97. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires an insurer to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as additional living expenses which the insured has made a claim for. The list may include a statement that the list is not intended to include all items covered under the policy, but only those that are commonly claimed, if this is the case. This list was never provided to the insured. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 98. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 20, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until February 25,

- 99. In reference to Section 2695.5(a), this Department sent a letter to New Hampshire on April 23, 2009 and a response was considered late on May 19, 2009. No response was ever received. The Department then sent a follow-up letter to New Hampshire, dated May 28, 2009. This response was considered late on June 23, 2010. The response was received on June 9, 2009. Therefore, New Hampshire was found to be in violation of this section.
  - 100. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue a thorough, fair and objective investigation and shall not persist in seeking information not reasonably required for, or material to, the resolution of a claim dispute. Based on the report dated March 24, 2009 from DMA Claims Services, New Hampshire made no attempt to determine the replacement cost of the complainant's home until almost four months post loss. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
  - 101. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated May 14, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 26, 2010.

## p. Department File No. CSB-6407976, Lanny S

- 102. On February 13, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found both companies to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.7(d) and 2695.4(a).
- 103. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 104. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire and York in November of 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured

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was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until February 27, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.

105. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated May 19, 2010. York was notified of its violations in letter dated May 26, 2010.

#### q. Department File No. CSB-6460209, Ronald Z

- 106. On July 13, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found both companies to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.4(a).
- 107. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 108. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 16, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 4, 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 109. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated May 19, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 6, 2010.

## r. Department File No. CSB-6410973, Jacalyn J

110. On February 4, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an undue delay in the handling of this claim. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found both companies to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060.

111. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer is to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The Department's review of the claim filefound no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list.

Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.

112. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated May 19, 2010. York was notified of its violation in a letter dated May /26, 2010.

#### s. Department File No. CSB-6479351, Geraldo J

- 113. On September 9, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a) and 2695.7(d).
- 114. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 115. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 18, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 6, 2009 Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.
- 116. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on November 18, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until March of 2009. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
  - 117. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated

## t. Department File No. CSB-6442410, Bruce H

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Department The No. CSD-0442410, Druce II

118. On May 19, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060.

- 119. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 120. The Department notified New Hampshire of this violation in a letter dated May 19, 2010. York was notified of this violation in a letter dated May /26, 2010.

## u. Department File No. CSB-6448703, Nicole F

- 121. On May 28, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.7(d) and 2695.7(g).
- 122. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this statute.
- 123. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 18, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.

Section 2695.7(g) states that no insurer shall attempt to settle a claim by making a settlement offer that is unreasonably low. When determining the replacement cost value of the insured's home, an \$1800 deduction for the dishwasher and range was mistakenly taken twice. Therefore, both New Hampshire and York were found in violation of this section.

125. The Department notified New Hampshire of this violation in a letter dated May 19, 2010. York was notified of its violations in a letter dated May 26, 2010.

## v. **CSB-6502314**, Mary Anne P

- 126. On January 11, 2010, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau found both companies to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.7(d).
- 127. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. Our review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.
- 128. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported to your company on 11/17/08, your company made no attempt to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
  - 129. Both companies were notified of these violations in letters dated May 26, 2010.

#### w. Department File No. CSB-6497016, Robert W

130. On November 19, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau has found both companies to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.7(d), and

2695.7(c) (1).

131. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.

- 132. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported on November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 5, 2009. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- 133. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on November 17, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- 134. Section 2695.7(c)(1) requires an insurer to provide notice to a claimant whenever the insurer is unable to accept or deny the claim within the timeframe required in Section 2695.7(b). In this case, proof of claim was received on November 23, 2008. Notice pursuant to this Section was sent timely on December 17, 2008 and January 15, 2009. However, the continuing notice that was due on February 16, 2009 was not sent until February 19, 2009, constituting one violation of this section. Notice was again sent timely on March 5, 2009, but notices that were due on April6, 2009, May6, 2009, June 5, 2009, July 6, 2009, August 5, 2009, September 7, 2009, October 7, 2009, and November 9, 2009 were not sent, constituting another eight violations of this section.
  - 135. Both companies were notified of these violations in letters dated June 11, 2010.

#### x. Department File No. CSB-6454813, Kalai A

136. On June 15, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an unsatisfactory settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services

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Bureau both companies to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.7(c) (1) and 2695.7(d).

- 137. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires an insurer to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as additional living expenses which the insured has made a claim for. The list may include a statement that the list is not intended to include all items covered under the policy, but only those that are commonly claimed, if this is the case. This list was never provided to the insured. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.
- beneficiary, all benefits, coverage, time limits or other provisions of any insurance policy issued by that insurer that may apply to the claim presented by the claimant. When additional benefits might reasonably be payable under an insured's policy upon receipt of additional proofs of claim, the insurer shall immediate communicate this fact to the insured and cooperate with and assist the insured in determining the extent of the insured's additional liability. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 17, 2008. A review of this claim file shows the complainant was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 4, 2009. In addition, the \$500 Debris Removal policy benefit was never disclosed to the complainant. Therefore, two violations of this regulation have occurred.
- 139. Section 2695.7(c)(1) requires an insurer to provide notice to a claimant whenever the insurer is unable to accept or deny the claim within the timeframe required in Section 2695.7(b). Also continuing notice was required every 30 calendar days. Here, continuing notice was sent to the claimant on December 16, 2008, January 20, 2009, February 20, 2009, March 4, 2009 and April 22, 2009. No continuing notice was sent for May 2009 and June 2009. Therefore, two violations of this regulation have occurred.
- 140. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue a thorough, fair and objective investigation and shall not persist in seeking information not reasonably required for or material to the resolution of a claim dispute. Per York's letter to the

complainant dated March 4, 2009, no effort was made to determine the replacement cost of the complainant's home from Pacific Valley Homes until June 26, 2009 and with no input from the complainant. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.

141. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated July 9, 2010. York was notified of the violations in a letter dated August 23, 2010.

#### y. Department File No. CSB-6497217, Scott and Jan H

- 142. On November 10, 2009, a complaint was filed against New Hampshire and York alleging an undue delay in claim processing. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau has found both companies to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a) and 2695.7(d).
- 143. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires an insurer to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as additional living expenses which the insured has made a claim for. The list may include a statement that the list is not intended to include all items covered under the policy, but only those that are commonly claimed, if this is the case. This list was never provided to the complainants. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.
- beneficiary, all benefits, coverage, time limits or other provisions of any insurance policy issued by that insurer that may apply to the claim presented by the claimant. When additional benefits might reasonably be payable under an insured's policy upon receipt of additional proofs of claim, the insurer shall immediately communicate this fact to the insured and cooperate with and assist the insured in determining the extent of the insured's additional liability. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 17, 2008. A review of this claim file shows the complainants were never advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement. In addition, the \$500 Debris Removal policy benefit was never disclosed to the complainants and was never paid. Therefore, two violations of this regulation have occurred.
  - 145. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue a

146. The Department notified New Hampshire of these violations in a letter dated July 15, 2010. York was notified of the violations in a letter dated August 23, 2010.

#### z. Department File No. CSB-6439714, Julie S

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- 147. On June 11, 2009, a complaint was filed alleging an undue delay with the processing of a claim. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau has found New Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.4(a).
- 148. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The Department's review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.
- 149. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 15, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until 3/5/09. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- 150. The Department notified New Hampshire and York of these violations in letters dated August 23, 2010.

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#### aa. Department File No. CSB-6448728, Alberta L

- 151. On May 29, 2009, a complaint was filed alleging undue delay in claim processing. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau has found New Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.7(d).
- 152. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires an insurer to provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as additional living expenses which the insured has made a claim for. The list may include a statement that the list is not intended to include all items covered under the policy, but only those that are commonly claimed, it this is the case. This list was never provided to the insured. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.
- 153. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue a thorough, fair and objective investigation and shall not persist in seeking information not reasonably required for and material to the resolution of a claim dispute. The complainant forwarded a copy of her replacement cost estimate with the list of upgrades to York on February 5, 2009. York made no attempt to determine the replacement cost of the complainant's home until June 3, 2009, when it secured a replacement cost quote from Ginny Harmon at the park. Therefore, a violation of this regulation has occurred.
- 154. The Department notified New Hampshire and York of these violations in a letters dated August 23. 2010.

#### bb. Department File No. CSB-6497016, Robert W

155. On November 9, 2009, a complaint was filed alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau has found New Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a), 2695.7(d), and 2695.7(c) (1).

- 156. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.
- 157. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 17, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 5, 2009. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- 158. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on November 17, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- 159. Section 2695.7(c) (1) requires an insurer to provide notice to a claimant whenever the insurer is unable to accept or deny the claim within the timeframe required in Section 2695.7(b). In this case, proof of claim was received on 11/23/08. Notice pursuant to this Section was sent timely on December 17, 2008 and January 15, 2009. However, the continuing notice that was due on February 16, 2009 was not sent until February 19, 2009, constituting one violation of this section. Notice was again sent timely on March 5, 2009, but notices that were due on April 6, 2009, May 6, 2009, June 5, 2009, July 6, 2009, August 5, 2009, September 7, 2009, October 7, 2009, and November 8, 9, 2009 were not sent, constituting another eight violations of this section.
- 160. The Department notified New Hampshire and York of these violations in a letters June 11, 2010.

# cc. Department File No. CSB-6479350, Gary R

161. On September 2, 2009, a complaint was filed alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau has found New

Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a) and 2695.7(d).

- 162. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.
- 163. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 18, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until June 21, 2009. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 18, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- 165. The Department notified New Hampshire and York of these violations in a letters dated August 24, 2010.

## dd. Department File No. CSB-6498390, Mavis A

- 166. November 14, 2009, a complaint was filed alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau has found New Hampshire and York to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Sections 2695.4(a) and 2695.7(d).
- 167. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim

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file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.

- 168. Section 2695.4(a) requires an insurer to disclose to a first party claimant, all benefits and policy provisions that may apply to the presented claim. This claim was reported to New Hampshire on November 18, 2008. A review of the claim file shows the insured was not advised of the Additional Amount of Insurance for Coverage A endorsement until March 5, 2009. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- 169. Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on, November 18, 2008 no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until. March 26, 2009. Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.
- 170. The Department notified New Hampshire and York of these violations in a letters dated .August 24, 2010.

#### Department File No. CSB-6495137, Michael and Carol P ee.

- 171. On October 28, 2009, a complaint was alleging an unreasonably low settlement offer. An investigation by the Department's Claims Services Bureau has found New Hampshire to be in noncompliance with California Insurance Code Section 2060 and the Fair Claims Settlement Practices Regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 10, Chapter 5, Subchapter 7.5), specifically Section 2695.7(d).
- 172. California Insurance Code Section 2060 requires that when a loss results in a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer believes may be covered under the policy as covered expenses. The review of the claim file found no evidence of the insured being provided with such a list. Therefore, a violation of this statute has occurred.
- Section 2695.7(d) requires every insurer to conduct and diligently pursue its 173. investigation of a claim. Although this claim was reported on November 18, 2008, no attempt was made to determine the replacement cost value of the home until several months later.

Therefore, a violation of this section has occurred.

# NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS AND ASSOCIATED SECTIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS AND CALIFORNIA INSURANCE CODE

As noted in detail above, the conduct of the respondents has resulted in 125 violations against New Hampshire and 117 violations against York. The table below provides a summary of the violations as they correspond to the relevant sections of the California Code of Regulations and of the California Insurance Code.

# **New Hampshire Violations**

SECTION VIOLATED	NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS
§2060 CIC	32
§790.03(h)(1) CIC	2
§2695.7(c)(1) CCR	30
§2695.7(h) CCR	3
§2695.4(a)CCR	21
§2695.7(d) CCR	21
§2695.5(a) CCR	7
§2695.7(g) CCR	4
§2695.5(e)(2) CCR	3
§2695.3(a) CCR	1
§2695.7(b) CCR	1
TOTAL	125

#### **York Services Violations**

SECTION VIOLATED	NUMBER OF VIOLATIONS
§2060 CIC	32
§790.03(h)(1) CIC	2
§2695.7(c)(1) CCR	30
§2695.7(h) CCR	3
§2695.4(a)CCR	21
§2695.7(d) CCR	21
§2695.7(g) CCR	4
§2695.5(e)(2) CCR	3
§2695.7(b) CCR	1
TOTAL	117

#### PRAYER AND NOTICE OF MONETARY PENALTY

#670183v1

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1 2	WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays for judgment against Respondents New Hampshire and
3	York as follows:
4	1. An Order to Cease and Desist from engaging in such unfair acts or
	practices in violation of CIC 790.03;
5	2. Pursuant to CIC Section 790.035, for unfair or deceptive acts in violation of
6	Section 790.03 as set forth above in an amount to be fixed by the Commissioner not to exceed
7	ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) for each unfair or deceptive act or practice found to be willful;
8	and a penalty in an amount to be fixed by the Commissioner not to exceed five thousand dollars
10	(\$5,000.00) for each unfair or deceptive act or practice found not to be willful.
11	3. Pursuant to CIC 704(b) and 704.7 suspension of Respondent's certificate of
12	authority for not exceeding one year or a fine of fifty -five thousand dollars (\$55,000) in lieu of
13	suspension for not carrying out contracts in good faith.
14	Dated: March 5, 2012
15	CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
16	
17	BYs_ MICHAEL TANCREDI
18	SENIOR STAFF COUNSEL
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